

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

1. In the Summary of the Invention

Please delete the two paragraphs spanning page 2, lines 5 - 16 of the specification of the as-filed application. Please replace the two deleted paragraphs with the following two new paragraphs:

In another aspect, the present invention is embodied in a composite, metal and plastic pipe assembly, comprising: first and second metal pipes having respective first and second ends; a first plastic cuff positioned around the circumference of the first pipe end, the first cuff having an annular groove defined between radially inner and outer walls of the first cuff and extending in a longitudinal direction of the first pipe and receiving the first pipe end therein; a second plastic cuff positioned around the circumference of the second pipe end, the second cuff having an annular groove defined between radially inner and outer walls of the second cuff and extending in a longitudinal direction of the second pipe and receiving the second pipe end therein; the first cuff forming a spigot member extending around the circumference of the first pipe end and the second cuff forming a bell member extending around the circumference of the second pipe end; and substantially the entire first cuff being inserted into the second cuff, thereby forming a mating bell and spigot. In an additional aspect, the pipe assembly further comprises a plastic coating formed on the first pipe; a plastic coating formed on the second pipe; a first plastic weld joining the first plastic cuff to the plastic coating on the end of the first pipe; and a second plastic weld joining the second plastic cuff to the plastic coating on the end of the second pipe. In still another aspect, the first plastic cuff comprises a metal core embedded therein and the second plastic cuff comprises a metal core embedded therein.

In a further aspect, the present invention is embodied in components for a composite metal and plastic pipe assembly, comprising: first and second metal pipes having respective first and second ends; a plastic spigot cuff formed around the circumference of the first pipe end, the plastic spigot cuff having an annular groove defined between radially inner and outer walls of the plastic spigot cuff and extending in a longitudinal direction of the first pipe and receiving the first pipe end therein, and a plastic bell cuff formed around the circumference of the second pipe end, the plastic bell cuff having an annular groove defined between radially inner and outer walls of the plastic bell cuff and extending in a longitudinal direction of the second pipe and receiving the second pipe end therein, the sizes of the bell and spigot cuffs being adapted for inserting substantially the entire spigot cuff into the bell cuff to thereby form a coupling between the spigot cuff and the bell cuff and between the first metal pipe and the second metal pipe when the spigot cuff is inserted into the bell cuff.

2. In the Detailed Description

Please revise the first paragraph of page 7 of the as-filed specification of the application as follows:

One such profile is used in pipe 40, Figure 8. This figure depicts a bell and spigot coupling 43 which joins corrugated pipe ends or sections 41 and 42. The coupling 43 comprises plastic spigot cuff 45 and plastic bell cuff 48. The cuffs 45 and 48 optionally and preferably include metal cores 51 and 52, respectively. The spigot and bell cuffs 45 and 48 are formed on the corrugated pipe ends 41 and 42 as described above. The plastic spigot cuff 45 has an annular groove ~~therein defined~~

65 defined therein between radially ~~extending~~ inner and outer walls of the ~~first cuff~~ plastic spigot cuff and extending in a longitudinal direction of the first pipe end ~~41~~, which 41. The annular groove 65 receives the first pipe end. Similarly, the plastic bell cuff 48 has an annular groove ~~therein defined~~ 68 defined therein between radially inner and outer walls of the ~~second cuff~~ plastic bell cuff and extending in a longitudinal direction of the second pipe end ~~42~~, which 42. The annular groove 68 receives the second pipe end. Substantially the entire spigot cuff 45 is received within the bell cuff 48. The plastic spigot cuff 45 and the plastic bell cuff 48 are joined to their respective pipe ends by joints 53 and 54. Conveniently, when plastic coated pipes are used, as described above, these joints are plastic welds. Other types of joints can be used, such as bolts or rivets, but plastic welds are preferred. Also, wire hoops such as or similar to 31 and 32 can be used to augment the couplings 43 and can be used in conjunction with cuffs having shoulders similar to the shoulders 39, Figure 2. The couplings 43 are applicable to a variety of pipes and pipe sizes.